

Message Text

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SUBJECT: ELECTION DEVELOPMENTS

SUMMARY. 2,369 CANDIDATES OF 39 PARTIES CONTESTING 279 SEATS IN APRIL 4 ELECTIONS. DEMOCRAT, SOCIAL ACTION, AND THAI NATION PARTIES HEAD THE LIST OF PARTIES WITH MOST CANDIDATES. END SUMMARY.

1. ACCORDING TO THE LATEST FIGURES RELEASED BY THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR, 2,369 CANDIDATES OF THIRTY-NINE PARTIES ARE RUNNING IN THE APRIL 4 ELECTIONS. 2,470 REGISTERED BUT 96 DISQUALIFIED THEMSELVES BY NOT PRESENTING THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS AND NOT PAYING THE 4,000 BAHT REGISTRATION FEE IN TIME. ANOTHER FIVE WITHDREW, THUS LOSING THE GUARANTEE MONEY PUT UP FOR REGISTRATION.

2. THE DEMOCRAT PARTY FIELDDED THE LARGEST NUMBER OF CANDIDATES, 260. OTHERS WITH 100 OR MORE CANDIDATES WERE THE SOCIAL ACTION, 234; THAI NATION, 215; NEW FORCE, 204; SOCIAL JUSTICE, 203; PZOPLE'S FORCE, 151; SOCIALIST PARTY OF THAILAND, 125; MORAL SOVEREIGNTY (THAMMATHIPHATAI), 110; UNCLASSIFIED UNCLASSIFIED

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AND SOCIAL NATIONALIST, 100.

3. THE OTHER PARTIES ARE THE UNITED DEMOCRATIC FRONT (NAEO RUAM PRACHATHIPATAI), 87; SOCIAL AGRARIAN, 76; THAI PROTECTION (PHITHAK THAI), 71; THAI, 66; LABOR, 49; NATIONALIST, (CHAT NIYOM), 56; THAI NATIONAL REGENERATION, 36; SOCIALIST UNITED FRONT, 37; NEW SIAM, 43; SIAM CITY (KRUNG SAYAM), 32; FREE FORCE (PHALANG SERI), 30; PROGRESSIVE PEOPLE'S, 26; PEOPLE'S, 23; PEACEFUL PEOPLE'S, 22; SIAM FORCE (PHALANG SAYAM), 15; THAI SOCIETY (THAI SANGKHOM), 19; DEMOCRACY, 16; SIAM NATION (CHAT SAYAM), 12; FARMERS, 9; ECONOMIST, 6; PEACE FRONT, 10; SOCIAL PROGRESSIVE (SANGKHOM KAO NA), 6; PROVINCIAL DEVELOPMENT, 6; POPULAR THAI (NIYOM THAI), 5; INDEPENDENT THAI (THAI ITSARA), 1; GOOD CIVILIZATION, 3; PEOPLE'S FORCE (PHALANG RAT), 1; OCCUPATIONAL WELFARE AND CHARITY, 1; PEOPLE'S SOCIAL JUSTICE, 1; WND UNITED THAI, 2.

4. IN BANGKOK THERE ARE 207 CANDIDATES OF 26 PARTIES RUNNING TO WIN 28 SEATS. BOTH THE NEW FORCE AND THE DEMOCRATS FIELDED 28 CANDIDATES. THE OTHERS ARE THE SOCIAL JUSTICE PARTY, 26; SOCIAL ACTION, 23; PEOPLE'S, 20; THAI NATION, 17; SOCIALIST PARTY OF THAILAND, 11; AND THE PROGRESSIVE PEOPLE'S PARTIES, 10. SIAM CITY, PEOPLE'S FORCE, AND LABOR, 5 EACH; MORAL SOVEREIGNTY, THAI AND NATIONALIST, 4 EACH; SOCIAL NATIONALIST AND THAI NATIONAL REGENERATION, 3 EACH; PEACE FRONT, 2; UNITED DEMOCRATIC FRONT, THAI PROTECTION, OCCUPATIONAL WELFARE AND CHARITY, FARMERS, NEW SIAM, DEMOCRACY, POPULAR THAI, ECONOMIST AND SIAM FORCE, 1 EACH.

5. THE NUMBER OF CANDIDATES RUNNING UNDER THE BANNER OF THE PARTIES MAY CHANGE SINCE CANDIDATES CAN LEGALLY CHANGE PARTIES AT ANY TIME BEFORE OR AFTER THE ELECTION.

6. EMBASSY CANNOT MAKE ANY MEANINGFUL ANALYSIS OF THE CANDIDATES AT THIS TIME BECAUSE THE OFFICIAL LIST OF CANDIDATES WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL FEBRUARY 27.
WHITEHOUSE

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